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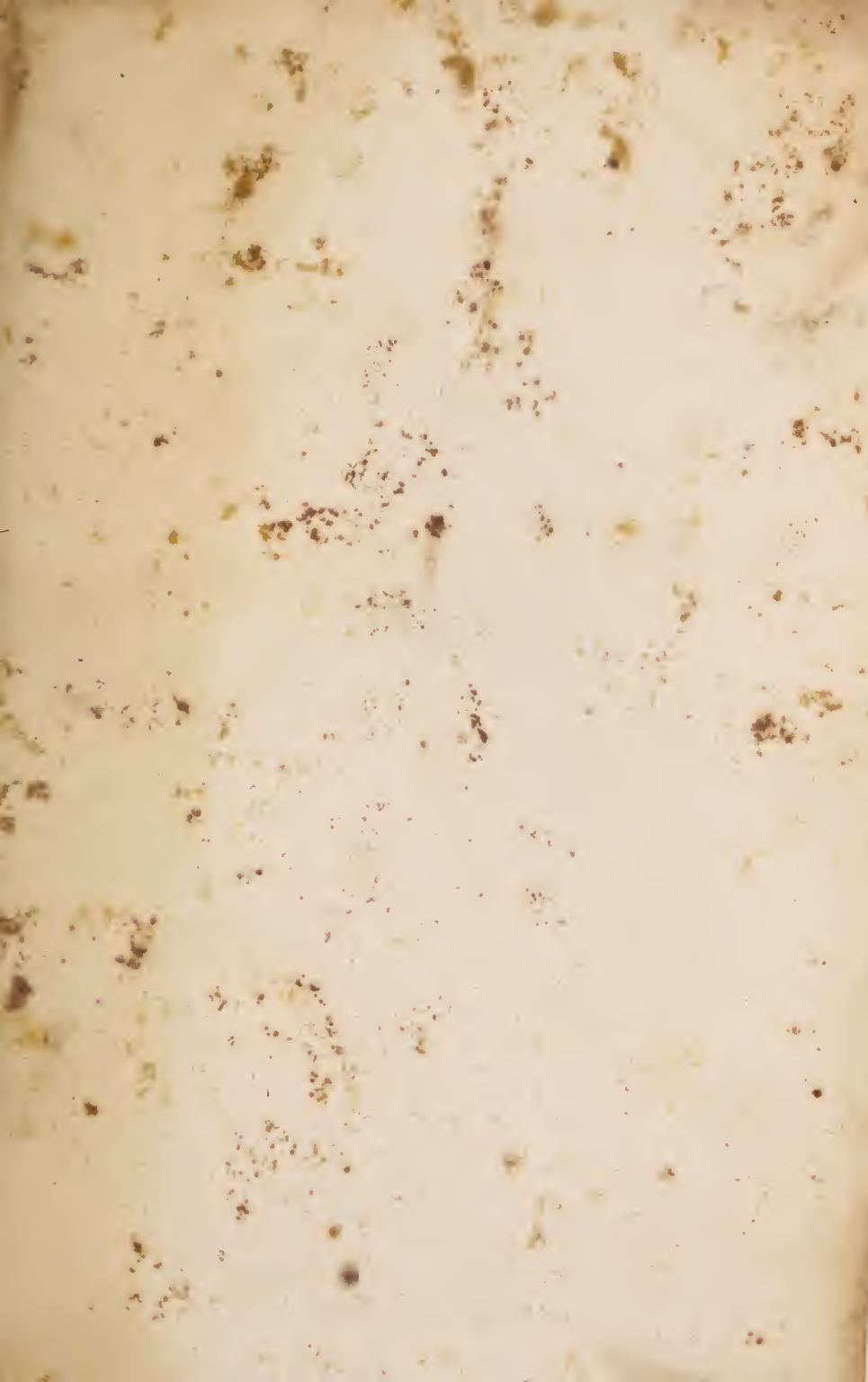
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# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

AND

## COLONIAL JOURNAL.

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### NEW PLAN FOR SUPPRESSING THE SLAVE TRADE AND OBTAINING LABORERS FOR THE BRITISH WEST INDIA COLONIES.

WE have frequently noticed the various means resorted to by the British planters, to supply the place of the recently emancipated slaves in the West Indies who have refused to labor on the plantations, none of which have been attended with success. The produce of the Islands is so rapidly falling off, that the next crop, it is feared, will not furnish a supply for home consumption. It is reduced to a certainty that the introduction of foreign sugar for home use, cannot be deferred beyond another year, unless the laborers to work the plantations in the Islands can be immediately increased.

In our number for 15th April, we copied an article from a British Colonial paper, proposing the importation of native Africans, from Sierra Leone, and observed that we should look with much anxiety to the full development of the British African policy. We have at no time believed that this policy was dictated by motives of pure benevolence, but, on the contrary, that it was wholly selfish. We confess, however, that we did not so soon expect to see the British Government throw off all disguise, and openly sanction the plan of supplying the places of the recently emancipated slaves in the West Indies, by importing the natives of Africa. There is no longer any doubt of the fact, as appears from the following extract from a late British journal, received from the European correspondent of the National Intelligencer:

“There is a vessel only waiting for a fair wind to leave this country on a perfectly novel mission. The *Hector*, Captain FREEMAN, is under engagement to convey Mr. BARCLAY, the Agent General for Jamaica, to Sierra Leone, in order to offer to the natives of Africa a passage to the West Indies as free emigrants, and so to participate in the advantage, without the pains, already enjoyed by their countrymen who have left their native land as slaves. They are to be quite unfettered by engagements before

embarkation, and free to choose their own employers, and make their own terms on reaching their new home. To *them* the change from a barbarous to a civilized country must be beneficial. To those who look beyond the surface, this commencement of an African emigration, which may one day supersede the slave trade throughout the world, will give no common gratification."

This is a new and extraordinary movement indeed, and merits the serious consideration not only of every American citizen, but of the Government. The Agent General for Jamaica is commissioned to go to Sierra Leone to treat with the native Africans, and to obtain their *consent* to emigrate to the West Indies! They are to be *free to choose their own employers*, and make such arrangements as they *please* on their arrival! &c. What hypocrisy, to pretend to treat with the poor African, who has been separated by violence from his family and country, placed on board a slave ship in chains, captured by British cruisers, and landed at Seirra Leone more dead than alive. Is it to be believed for a moment that he would prefer crossing the ocean, and abandoning his country, his wife and children forever, to returning to his former home? Is he in a condition, mentally or physically, to be a party to such a contract as is proposed? Who is to be his guardian, his adviser and protector, when he arrives in the West Indies? Will he be able to avail himself of any of the benefits or privileges proposed, of selecting his employer? If he repents his engagement, can he return? No: so far as his liberty or rights are concerned, *he will be a slave*. He will be assigned by a commissioner, or perhaps a magistrate, to a planter; the compensation and mode of treatment may be regulated by law; he will be required to labor, and if he refuses, will be compelled, by stripes or starvation, to compliance.

Both M'QUEEN and BUXTON admit that the efforts of the British to suppress the slave trade, which have been continued for thirty years, have totally and signally failed. The world has been filled with the praises of British benevolence, for devising a new plan for suppressing the slave trade, and elevating and christianizing Africa, by inducing its Kings to employ the labor of their people and slaves in cultivating the soil. Before time is given to test the practicability of this scheme, a more summary remedy is devised, namely, to remove the subjects of this trade from Africa to the new world. This is a new plan indeed to put an end to the slave trade, and is about as rational and practicable, as it would be to promote temperance by forming a grand society to drink up all the spirits in the world! M'QUEEN says, "Slavery and the slave trade, form the general law of Africa. These two evils reign acknowledged, sanctioned, known, recognized, and submitted to, by all her population, of every rank and degree, throughout all her borders." It is to this people that a British commissioner is to apply for emigrants to the West Indies!

BUXTON's remedy for the slave trade, which was adopted by the British ministry about a year ago, was lauded for its benevolence, both in Europe



and this country. He proposes to induce the Kings and Chiefs in Africa, to abandon the slave trade, by convincing them that they would be great gainers by selling the *produce of the labor* of their people, rather than the people themselves. He remarks: "Africa, notwithstanding the general and terrible drain of its inhabitants, teems with population. But for the slave trade, there is no reason to doubt that it would be as densely peopled as any part of the world." \* \* \* "A strange kind of economy, to carry away the population from their native fields, which need nothing but these hands for their cultivation, in order to plant them in diminished numbers in another hemisphere."

One of the great evils of the slave trade, (which Great Britain has spent over \$100,000,000 to suppress,) is stripping Africa of her laboring population. What will Africa have gained by it, if, by a compromise between England, Spain, Portugal and Texas, those several States shall be furnished with laborers from Africa? And why should not other States, as well as Great Britain, supply themselves with free laborers from Africa, and participate in this new speculation? The answer is ready, why Britain only should enjoy a monopoly of this benevolence. She will carry them to a country of freemen, where they will be enlightened and receive christian instruction. She claims to be the guardian angel of Africa and Africans, and arrogates to herself the right of interfering even with judicial proceedings in this country, where the rights of colored men are involved, as in the case of the Amistad negroes. She boards American ships in the African seas, and searches our vessels as rudely as she would a pirate. Only a few months since she captured an American ship, because the captain had employed a native cook, and sent her with a prize crew into the port of Salem, as a slaver, while, at the same time, she was sending native Africans to the West Indies, and now openly avows the policy of supplying those islands with laborers from Africa. Since, however, these laborers are to be employed, as in other countries, with their free consent, they will cheerfully emigrate to better their condition! What an insult to the common sense of mankind! Spend one hundred million of dollars to heal the wounds of bleeding Africa, to save her children from being torn from their country, and now discover that it is right, moral, and meritorious, to remove them by thousands!

Let us inquire in what way this new plan of benevolence is likely to be conducted, and how the consent of native Africans is likely to be obtained. The following communication from the King of Ashantee to Mr. BOWDITCH, British Ambassador to Coomassie, is instructive on this subject, is a good illustration of the state of society in the interior of Africa, and shows how easy it will be for Mr. Agent BARKLY to succeed in obtaining the *free consent* of as many laborers as may be required in the West Indies:

"I cannot make war to catch slaves in the Bush like a thief: my ancestors never did so; but if I fight a King and kill him when he is insolent, then certainly I must have his gold and his slaves, and the people are mine too. I killed DINKERA, took his gold, and brought more than twenty

thousand slaves to Coomassie. Some of these people being bad, I washed my stool in their blood ; but some were good people, and those I sold or gave to my Captains. Many more died, because this country does not grow too much corn like Sarem, and what can I do ? Unless I kill or sell them, they will grow strong and kill my people. Now you must tell my master (the King of England) that these slaves can work for him, and if he wants ten thousand he can have them, and if he wants fine, handsome women and girls to give his Captains, I can send him great numbers.”— [*M' Queen*, page 52.

Can we doubt that a British Agent would have obtained the free consent of the whole twenty thousand prisoners taken in the war with DINKERA ? If he should have scruples of conscience about purchasing them by the head, that matter could be easily arranged with his majesty of Ashantee ; a liberal present would be satisfactory.

In this way only, can the British get the consent of native Africans to leave the country, unless it is those found on board of slave ships.

What less evil will this mode of abstracting the natives inflict on Africa, than purchasing them by the head, as is now practised by slave traders ? In what does it differ from the slave trade, but in the name ? Superior comfort may be afforded on the passage, in room, provisions &c., but the idea of obtaining the consent of free Africans to leave their native country, to which they are superstitiously attached, is absurd. The African can live with little labor—the spontaneous production of nature will support life. Resort must be had to prisoners of war, Africans taken on board slave ships, or common slaves of the country.

But the physical and moral condition of either class, is to be improved by removal to the British West Indies ! PEDRO BLANCO urged as an argument in defending the slave trade, that the condition of the natives was improved by removal to christian countries ; that he was effecting more good than all the missionaries in Africa—that they converted but few pagans to Christianity, while he sent thousands yearly where the Gospel might reach them !

Whatever benefit may result to the descendants of the Africans removed to the West Indies, the present generation will be hewers of wood and drawers of water ; no emancipation law will reach their case. The measure is one of necessity. The trade of the West Indies is lost forever to the British Government, unless laborers can be found to cultivate the plantations. Experience has proved that free negroes cannot be relied on ; if they could, then a supply would be unnecessary. It is permanent, steady laborers that are wanted to work under overseers ; it is a substitute for the slave. If, instead of purchasing a slave at five hundred dollars, or any other price, per head, the planter pays yearly wages, the negro will be required to yield obedience, and perform his task, and will in fact be a slave to all intents and purposes.

We notice this extraordinary movement of the British Government, not only as a departure from all their professions of philanthropy, but



as it is hostile to this country. We have seen that the nations of Europe have recently been agitated with the great question of settling the balance of power, of devising measures to prevent an accumulation of force by any one power or party, that would endanger the peace or security of any other power. Great Britain has taken a prominent part in these measures, and, at the imminent risk of a war with France, has effected her plan by an exertion of naval and military power. But American security is not embraced in their policy; and it is in its relation to our own interests, that we would present to our readers this new plan of importing Africans to the West Indies. The West Indies are in the immediate vicinity of the Southern States of our Union. The entire male population of the British settlements, of suitable age for military service, is very large. These are under a decided abolition influence. Should the British introduce one hundred thousand Africans as laborers, a large army might immediately be raised from the emancipated negroes. They are proverbially fond of the trappings, parade, and pomp of military life; and, as soldiers, they are found to be orderly and subordinate. This army could be supported at less expense than in any part of the British empire, and would be capable of being used in tropical and unhealthy climates, or in countries or districts where malaria prevails at certain seasons of the year, which would prove fatal to European troops. A well drilled militia or army of 100,000 colored men in our immediate neighborhood, to say the least of it, is a mighty power in the hands of the British, and if this nation was a member of the Holy Alliance, would not be tolerated, particularly when the British public is engaged in a crusade against slavery, and especially slavery in the United States. We are not alarmists, but cannot shut our eyes to passing events, and the hostile policy of Great Britain to American interests and institutions. The American Colonization Society, from motives of pure benevolence, is endeavoring to build up a Colony of American colored men in Africa, where they can enjoy American free institutions. This scheme is opposed, and generally denounced by the British public as wicked and barbarous. Our trade on the African coast is daily interrupted, although it employs but few vessels. The British flag is hoisted in the vicinity of, and between our settlements in, Liberia. Whatever America does, in relation to the colored man, is wrong; whatever Great Britain does, is right!

FRAZIERS' Magazine (printed in London) for April, contains an article headed, "*War with America a blessing to mankind*," filled with statements in relation to the condition of our Southern States, inflammatory and false. Although this article is not stamped with ministerial authority, yet it speaks the temper of the great body of the nation. We give a few extracts:

"Among the three millions of slaves, we may fairly calculate the adult males at nearly *one million*. Every man of all this multitude would eagerly rush to embrace an emancipating invader; and within a few days sail of their coast repose the free and happy blacks of Jamaica. In one morning a force of ten thousand men might be raised in this quarter, for the enfran-

chisement of their brethren in America. Such a force, supported by two battalions of Englishmen, and supplied with twenty thousand muskets, would establish themselves in Carolina, never to be removed. In three weeks from their appearance, the entire South would be in one conflagration. The chains of millions of men would be broken, and by what power could they ever be again rivetted?" \* \* \* "If we must have a war with America, let us make it a war for the emancipation of the slaves; so shall our success be certain and our triumph the triumph of humanity." \* \* \* "A quick, effectual, and utterly confounding blow in the South, would end the war in a few short weeks."

It is not only in the West Indies that we are menaced; provision is made in Canada to receive colored men, who are provided for and protected by the laws of the country. About twelve thousand have already taken refuge there, and in the recent civil commotions in that country, a regiment of them was enlisted and equipped, who were as loyal as the troops of the line. The policy pursued by the British in relation to this country and its colored population, is entitled to the most serious consideration, and is alike interesting to the North and the South. As Colonizationists we know no sectional differences. American Colonization is American in its benevolence and in its policy; it is intimately connected with American interests, civil, moral, and commercial; it is conservative in all its operations; and is now, more than ever, entitled to the support of American patriots, statesmen, and christians. A liberal, cordial, and united support of Colonization, would do much to unite our whole country, and would provide a good home for our free colored men, who, excluded from the social privileges necessary to their elevation, are easily made the dupes of British intrigue, and induced to listen to plans for enlisting them against our country.

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#### BRITISH POLICY—EAST INDIA COTTON GROWING, &c.

IN the January number of the Repository, we noticed, at some length, an article in the "*Natchez Free Trader*," in relation to the efforts and objects of the British to obtain a supply of cotton for their manufactories from India.

The subject is one of deep interest to this country, and more especially to the cotton growing regions, and would, no doubt, receive more serious consideration, if the real objects of the British were better understood. An opinion prevails with Southern men, that the British policy is dictated by abolition principles, and is therefore directed against southern slavery; this, we believe, is an error. The British ministry undoubtedly encourage abolition efforts in England, and would rejoice to see anti-slavery grow in this country until it should be strong enough to sever our Union; but this feeling does not arise either from a hatred to slavery, or a desire to promote human happiness; it is an anti-American, and not an anti-slavery, movement. By encouraging abolition in Great Britain, the united influence of the nation is brought to aid the ministry in their plans to render

their manufactories independent of American cotton ; hence the effort that is making by the formation of societies, and otherwise, to increase the growth of cotton in India, and commence it in Africa. The same popular power that forced West India emancipation upon the Government, is now directed against the institutions in this country. Its object is to be accomplished by closing the market against the produce of slave labor in the United States ; and this is to be done by employing what they call the *free labor of India* to supply the demand. Such is the fanaticism of many abolitionists in England, and even in this country, that they believe Southern slavery is only another name for extreme wretchedness, and that the British Government is intent on abolishing slavery and all involuntary servitude from the world. That British subjects should be blinded by their fanatical zeal, is not so surprising ; but that Americans should adopt such absurd views, is very strange. We are not advocates for slavery ; we regard it as a great evil entailed on this country. It is, however, undoubtedly true, that both the moral and physical condition of Southern slaves is vastly preferable to that of millions of the poor in Great Britain. But were it otherwise, no foreign interference should be tolerated. Whoever will take the trouble to inquire, will find that in the very organization of the Government of Great Britain, wretchedness must exist, and be perpetually increasing. Their legislation is distinctly divided into two departments—that for the poor, and that for the rich ; nor is the object to relieve the poor or to elevate them, but to devise by law a system by which they can be fed and clothed at the cheapest rate. To the hundreds of thousands of hereditary paupers in Great Britain, British legislation holds out no hope of relief ; they are doomed to pass through life, feeling every day the pains of unsatisfied hunger. More than three millions of British subjects in Ireland and England are thus fated to extremest wretchedness and suffering, with no hope to cheer them. They cannot go beyond certain bounds ; they have but a partial control over their own children ; their very soup is measured out to them ; their morsel of bread weighed. Disguise it as we may, this is slavery in its worst form, cruel and increasing.

Let us only look abroad and we shall find abundant evidence that the British Government is not such an enemy to slavery and oppression as some suppose, and that her policy, so far as it relates to this country, is wholly selfish, and at least questionable, so far as Africa is concerned. We noticed in the eighth number of the Repository, the enslavement of the Indians by the Hudson's Bay Company. A correspondent writes in relation to this subject :

“ It is monstrous that the British Government who are ransacking the earth to find objects on whom to expend their charity, should sanction this enslavement of the ‘ noblest race of man.’ The North American aborigines enslaved ! and that too by slavery-hating Britons ! We should doubt the fact were the proof not of the most conclusive kind. LAS CASAS made Europe resound with his indignant denunciations of the enslaving of the aborigines of America three hundred years ago ; no man or nation since



that time has dared to commit this almost sacrilege. To the British belongs the infamous distinction of being the first civilized nation in modern times that has dared to pollute the noble Indian with the manacle, hateful badge of bondage. It is perhaps useless to say what must be a notorious fact, that the Oregon territory, within whose limits the British are oppressing the poor Indian, belongs to the United States, and that the Hudson's Bay Company, who are working this great wrong, are intruders on our soil."

We will now notice the condition of the people in India, whom it is proposed to use as the laborers in producing the supply of cotton for the British factories. The following extract from an article in an exchange paper, describes the degradation and wretchedness of the East Indians, and furnishes some interesting information in relation to the plans of the British, and the efforts they are making to increase the growth of cotton in the East :

#### COTTON CULTURE IN INDIA.

*Capabilities.*—Three millions of people in Great Britain are now dependent for their means of support, on the cotton of the United States. It is at once seen, to how great an extent the welfare of that country is connected with the regular supply of this article. Short crops, the speculations of cotton dealers, a servile insurrection, war, or any other causes affecting the growth or transportation of this staple, may shake to its foundations an empire, the beatings of whose heart are felt to the extremities of the earth.

Under this view, the attempts now on foot to stimulate and improve the culture of cotton in British India, and thereby at once supplant the American material, and open a new market for English manufactures, become profoundly interesting to this country. Great Britain consumes three-fifths of all the cotton raised in the United States; so that any revolution which should exclude it from her market, could not but produce a *radical* change in the modes in which labor and capital are employed in the *South*.

The total amount of the cotton export from this country to Britain, in 1840, was 1,245,000 bags, of which 434,642 were from the Atlantic States. The cotton imported into Britain, the same year, from India, amounted to 216,495—about one-half the export from the Atlantic States. In 1834, it was only 88,122—so that during the last seven years, it has increased 128,373, or at the rate of 145 per cent. In 1834, the export from the United States to England was 731,335, and its increase during the last seven years has been 513,692, at the rate of 70 per cent. So that Indian cotton in the British market has gained considerably on that of America.

The British Government in the East Indies, comprehends an empire nearly as large as Europe, numbering 150,000,000 of people. They are said to be highly ingenious, and tolerably well educated. Some of their manufactures are unrivalled. The price of labor is exceedingly low, varying from 1*d.* to 3*d.* a day. The climate is generally delightful, and the soil fertile almost beyond calculation. More than one-third of the arable land, it is stated, is yet unreclaimed. From time immemorial, the natives have been in the habit of raising cotton for their own use, and working it up into the most beautiful fabrics.

It may be said, however, that India can never produce enough of the material to supply the looms of Great Britain; or, granting the possibility

of this, that its inferior quality will for ever prevent its successful competition with American cotton. Those who know most on this subject think otherwise. The testimony is overwhelming, that cotton of every quality, and to almost any extent, can be produced.

Major General BRIGGS, who spent thirty-two years in India, and explored almost every part of it, and administered the affairs of Government in several provinces, says :

“With respect to the means India possesses for growing cotton, it is necessary to consider the extent of the country, the nature of its soil, its vast population, the description of their clothing, and the purposes to which cotton is applied, before we can have any conception of the great capabilities it has of supplying not only England, but the whole world if necessary.” And again he says—“We think enough has been said to show, that there is neither want of cotton soil for the indigenous nor the American plant, and we may with confidence assert, as the knowledge of soils and climate becomes more and more studied and attended to, that India will prove capable of producing cotton of any quality, and to any extent.”

The Right Honorable HOLT MACKENZIE, a servant of the Company in Bengal, says :

“India would not be found wanting in any essential requisite for the production of the best cotton. The vast extent to which cotton has long been grown, and the exquisite beauty of some of its manufactures, are only additional reasons for prosecuting inquiry.”

Dr. SPRAY, a botanist, one of the Company’s servants in Bengal, recently stated before the Royal Asiatic Society :

“It is certainly without a parallel in the annals of the world, that a country possessing such capabilities as India, should have been so long hermetically sealed against the enterprise of Britons, in order to prolong the abuses of patronage. Had the peninsula been open, we should not now be dependent upon America for raw cotton.”

KIRKMAN FINLAY, Esq., in a communication to the Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, says :

“India is a country of such vast resources, with such abundance of soil adapted to the cultivation of cotton, such a variety of climate, and such an immense laboring population, that it appears, of all others, best fitted to become a cotton-growing country ; and to send an article of the finest quality, and in the greatest abundance.”

But, it is needless to multiply quotations of this sort. It is generally conceded that the soil of India is capable of producing incalculable supplies of cotton, and at a price too, as low as that of any cotton in the world. Mr. GEORGE ASHBURNER, in a paper read before the Asiatic Society, remarks :

“Labor in central India is cheaper than in almost any other portions of the world ; the wages of an able bodied man being only three rupees [six shillings sterling] per month. It has been estimated, therefore, that Berah cotton may be cultivated profitably for 30 rupees per candy, or for rather less than a penny a pound!”

*Obstacles.*—The question very naturally arises—why then does not Indian, take the place of American, cotton ? How happens it, that the latter constitutes three-fourths of the whole amount consumed in Great Britain ? Several reasons may be assigned.

Up to the year 1815, India was sealed against European enterprise ; and from that time to 1833 the *Government* monopolized its trade, so that few private adventurers were hardy enough to enter into competition with it. Europeans, not in the service, were *barely tolerated* in the country, and were continually liable to expulsion at the discretion of the Government. No European could hold land there, or indeed set foot on the soil, without special license, which, generally, could only be obtained at considerable expense.



The chief obstacle, however, to cotton-growing in the East, and indeed the great cause of most of the evils of India, lies in the nature of the Government that controls its destinies—a Government which acts, not for the benefit of its subjects, but the aggrandizement of itself. Wrestling from the natives the proprietorship of the soil, it imposes on them taxes under which no people could flourish. It subjects them to a system of forced labor and purveyance, which, allowing no security for property, takes away the motive to its accumulation. The insolence, exactions and cruelties of its officers in many cases leave no refuge to the miserable native but absolute poverty. The virtual assumption by the Government of the proprietorship of the soil, is the root of the mischief. It has proclaimed itself the universal landlord, and affirmed its right to take from its tenants what it will. Before the country came under British rule, the Hindoo or Mohammedan sovereign claimed as a tax, a limited portion of the crop of every man's field, leaving not less than three-fourths to the farmer. The British Government takes the whole matter into their own hands—fixes an assumed capability in every field to produce, an assumed price on the produce itself, and then exacts from 35 to 45 per cent. of the money value of that produce as its share for ever;—and all this, without any reference to varying crops or prices! When the produce exceeds the amount previously fixed, the assessment is increased. When an individual fails in the payment of his tax, it is collected of the village. When the crop of a village is deficient, neighboring villages are compelled to make up the deficiency. 45 parts in a 100 of the gross produce of the soil are taken by the Government. As to the cultivator, his average share of the gross produce is stated to be generally from five to six in a hundred!

The effects of the land tax are represented as the most destructive. Villages, in time past happy and flourishing, have been desolated by it, and the cultivators in numerous districts driven from their farms, so that large tracts of land once occupied, are now covered with jungle and ranged by wild beasts. It has beggared the industrious Ryot, and converted him into a robber or assassin. And there is perhaps not one of the many families under which India of late years has groaned, that may not be traced to its blighting influence. In 1827-8, a famine prevailed in the North-western portions of Bengal, which carried off, it is said, 500,000 human beings. And yet the same year, as much grain was exported from the lower parts of Bengal, as would have fed half a million of people, at a pound of rice a day, for a whole year. The *Oriental Herald* for February, 1839, states, that “in 1819, there were about 6,558,692 acres of waste land, in the very provinces where half a million of human beings died last year from actual starvation.”

The pertinacious adherence of the Board of Directors to this ruinous system, seems to amount to madness. In the year 1835, Sir ROBERT GRANT issued a proclamation, offering to those who would cultivate waste lands, freedom from taxation for five years, and from half the usual amount of taxation, the next five. After the natives had overcome their distrust of this strange kindness on the part of the Government, they began to avail themselves of the offer, and under a system which secured to labor its just reward, soon showed what they could do. The Court of Directors, however, in less than three years, as if bent on keeping down all improvement in the country, ordered the offers to be recalled.

The Rev. HOWARD MALCOM of Boston wrote:

“Feb., 1837. A more beautiful country than that from Cuddalore to Tanjore, [Madras,] cannot possibly be imagined. The dense population and rich soil give their energies to each other, and produce a scene of un-



surpassed loveliness. But the taxes and other causes keep down the laborers to a state below that of our Southern slaves. The Government share of rice crops is, on an average, about 60 per cent.! But the mode of collection in money causes the cultivator to pay about three-fourths of the crop."

This grinding land-tax, destroying, as it does, the hope and energy of the laborer, and weakening the motives to the exercise of skill and carefulness, is the first and greatest obstacle to the free growth of cotton in India.

The revenue officers frequently will not suffer the crop to be touched until security be given for the payment of the land-tax. Meantime, the crop ripens; the cotton falls to the ground, and, becoming mixed with leaves and dust, is greatly deteriorated.

None of these hindrances, it will be observed, is inherent to the nature of the soil, or character of the people. A wise Government could remove them all. Still, despite of their unhappy influences, the exportation of Indian cotton to Britain, has increased, as we have seen, during the last seven years, at the rate of 145 per cent., while that of American cotton has advanced at the rate of but 70 per cent.!

Finally, it is impossible, at this time of day, when the whole world is in progress, when the inventive genius of man is partially annihilating time and space, and bringing opposite extremities of the earth into brotherly juxta-position, so that the light and blessings of civilization of one part are reflected over the whole—that the one hundred and fifty millions of people in India should remain much longer in their present state of degradation. Especially do they look with hope to the efforts of the people of Great Britain, who, having accomplished the extinction of slavery in the West Indies, will not rest, until they have placed their fellow subjects of India under a more equitable system of government, one which will be anxious to develop, rather than repress their energies, and whose influence will thus go to augment the wealth and power of the empire.

So long as the wealth and the power of the British East India Company could be increased by a system of oppression and exaction in India, it was pursued. In no country, and in no age of the world, was tyranny ever more cruel and unrelenting. Now it seems that interest dictates a new policy, and, as we have heretofore remarked in relation to Africa, the success of the British can only be secured by ameliorating the condition of millions of these degraded Indians. Selfishness induces the British now to yield what justice has long refused. And with the present excited feeling which prevails so extensively in Great Britain on the subject of slavery, and the power of the ministry to direct the concentrated action of the nation to Africa and India, with their immense resources, it would not be surprising if they should succeed in producing cotton enough in India and Africa to supply their manufactories.

This subject is one of deep interest to American statesmen, and entitled to their most serious consideration.

Every thousand additional bales of cotton raised in India or Africa will cut off the same number of bales of American cotton from a foreign market. It is not only the Southern planter who is to be affected—the commerce and monetary concerns of our country are to experience a change. It is to our cotton that we look mainly for the means of equalizing our exchange

with Great Britain. She does not take our bread stuffs, and if she becomes independent of our cotton, we must manufacture it ourselves. This we can do as cheaply as she can, and export the fabric instead of the raw material. A portion of the Southern labor, now employed in the field, can be withdrawn and applied in the factories. The crops will be reduced in proportion to the decreased demand. The prosperity of our country will not be checked. But to pass safely through so great a change in the business of our country, there is much for our statesmen to do—the North and South must be united. It is not the British abolition sentiment we have to fear, it is their anti-American policy. We must look at their objects, and the means they are employing to accomplish them; and not shut our eyes to the chances in favor of their success, and to their deep rooted hostility to everything that is American, political, moral and social. Let our policy be adapted to the changes that Great Britain may render necessary; let us open new markets for our increasing manufactures; prevent the British from shutting Africa against us; let us strengthen our feeble Colony on that continent, and through our settlements penetrate the interior. And if we succeed in firmly establishing our free institutions with our free colored people in Africa, we shall have done more to promote human happiness and practical liberty, than the British, with all their power and glory, can ever do.

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WE noticed, last year, the character of the Sultan of Muscat, and the courteous reception he gave to the American missionaries who visited Zanzibar, the influence he exerts in Africa, his partiality for Americans, &c. We still believe the Sultan of Muscat to be one of the most liberal and enlightened Mohammedan princes of the age, and that he is doing much for the amelioration of the condition of his degraded African subjects. The report of Capt. DRINKER, contained in the following article, conflicts with the statements of Mr. WATERS, American Consul at Zanzibar, who has been long and intimately acquainted with the Sultan.

*Arrival out of the Sultanee.*—By the Brenda, at Salem, from Bombay and Zanzibar, advices have been received of the arrival out of the Muscat ship Sultanee, on the 7th of December last, after a passage of one hundred and twenty days from New York, and twenty-nine from the Cape of Good Hope. Capt. DRINKER, who went out as navigator, returned in the Brenda. Capt. DRINKER had strong inducements held out to him by the Sultan to remain in his service, such as the the command of the best frigate in his navy, with a prospect of a voyage to New York within a year, &c., but he declined. The Sultan also endeavored to retain, by tempting offers, the four American seamen who went out with Capt. DRINKER; but one, however, accepted his proposals. His navy is composed of many fine ships, all built at Bombay, of teak wood, but they are entirely neglected and suffered to go to pieces. The inhabitants are described as a very filthy, half-naked, slavish race, and the town a collection of hovels scarcely fit for dog kennels. MAHMOUD BEN JUMA, the second in command, was unfortunately drowned a short time after the ship had anchored. He had been up to the town in the ship's gig to obtain a pilot, and on his return was

talking with Capt. DRINKER on the poop deck, and offering to show him all the lions on the island in return for his attention in America, when the Captain was called below. In a few moments JUMA walked to the side of the ship, gave a groan, then fell over the ship's side and was never seen to rise. It was supposed that he was seized with a fit. He was a very intelligent young man, studious, shrewd, and observing, and one of the most ambitious and promising officers in the Sultan's service. He acquired the English language to a considerable extent while in this country, and kept a journal into which he copied all the articles that appeared in the newspapers in relation to the ship or to any subject of interest, as well as his own observations on men and manners. The crew of the Sultanee was made up of common slaves purchased at a few dollars per head. Capt. DRINKER is of opinion that the Sultan will not at present send another vessel to this country, as the result of this voyage has, in a commercial point of view, proved unfortunate; and such is the want of energy among the Arabs, that three years elapsed before the Sultanee was ready for sea after the project of the first voyage was broached. A proof of the apathetic indifference of these people is the fact, that when Capt. DRINKER left, not one of the packages containing the presents to the Sultan had been opened. The opening was postponed from time to time for nearly two months, and perhaps they have not been examined to this day. A large crowd of natives assembled on the beach to see the ship come up, and when the crew landed, they were overwhelmed with questions in relation to America.—*Jour. Com.*

We subjoin extracts of a letter, received by the Brenda, from Capt. WM. C. WATERS, brother to the consul:

ZANZIBAR, *December 24th*, 1841.

HON. SAMUEL WILKESON:—

DEAR SIR,—I found Zanzibar in much the same state and appearance as I left it some six years since: there has been some improvement in the buildings, some houses have been put up since I was here, and I think the general appearance of the town is some better.

The Sultan arrived here about a week after my arrival; he had been absent about fifteen months on a visit to Muscat: he will probably make this place his permanent residence.

I called on him a few days after his arrival; he expressed himself much pleased with the presents sent by the United States Government, and said a number of times that the American Government had done much more than what he expected of them. He is much pleased with the repairs put on his ship, and with the attention paid to the officers.

He did not find the voyage turn out so profitably as he expected; he will lose money on the voyage. This is no encouragement for him to continue the trade; he had an idea that the Americans engaged in this trade were making a great deal of money, and he wished to ascertain what was made by them: with this view he sent the Sultanee on a voyage of inquiry, and the result is that he will not send another ship to the United States at present: perhaps he may, in two or three years, send a ship with presents to the Government.

I assure you, sir, that I am much pleased with my new home; we have an abundance of fruit, meats, fowls and fish, and all very cheap. I think that I could spend five or six years here very contentedly, if I had my wife and children with me. I hope that the good cause of Colonization goes on well. I assure you that I feel a very great interest in its operations.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

WM. C. WATERS.



WE copy from the Maryland Colonization Journal, the following notice of our article on "Emigration to Liberia," contained in the seventh number of the Repository :

We regard the proposition to the people of color, of fitting out expeditions on their own account and by their own means, as one calculated to effect much good ; and better would it have been for the cause if it had been earlier adopted. Men who are disposed to go on such conditions will be sure of effecting good to themselves and the Colony. They at once relieve themselves of the sense of dependence and obligation which they must necessarily feel if they are sent by a master, and every thing prepared for their present and future welfare. It is a remarkable trait in the human character, but an acknowledged one, that unmerited benefits received by any one beyond an ability to recompense the same, beget in the individual so benefitted a disposition to repay the good with evil. His pride will not permit him to acknowledge his indebtedness, and as he is unable or unwilling to make recompense, he is at once disposed to deprecate and undervalue any good thus received, and finally really believes himself an injured man.

It may be asked how we can expect men to do more without assistance than with? Abstractedly we do not ; but in this case, most that is wanting is zeal, energy, and a *Pilgrim* spirit ; mind will soon command means.

Besides, the provisions made for poor emigrants prevent the rich and enterprising spirited from availing themselves of these proffered helps ; whatever a man pays for, that only he values. In truth, there is not *sacrifice* enough in going to Liberia, if carried out and supported for a long time. It is only by seeking a free and rich country through difficulties and personal efforts and sacrifices, that a proper estimate of its value will be entertained.

Let but one independent expedition be gotten up and the emigrants settled on the beautiful farm lands in either of the colonies ; let them be possessed of means to put in operation a sugar and coffee plantation, and support themselves for two years until the fruits thereof can be reaped ; let there be among them men of good talents and energy of character, and let them be imbued with that puritanic zeal and ardor which supported the Plymouth settlers, and ought to support all others worthy the name of men fleeing from unjust oppression ; I say let such an operation be carried once into effect, and depend upon it we should hear of none of the calamities usually attributed to the Colonization cause, and there would come no question through them of the wisdom and practicability of the scheme. The only thing wanting is to induce our most intelligent colored men to enter in and examine the subject free from all bias or foreign interference. If they would once do this, *examine*, even if with intent to condemn, no matter, but candidly examine and weigh the subject, we should entertain no apprehensions of the result. We trust one experiment at least will be made, and if composed of a proper class of emigrants, and judiciously conducted, we would not fear to stake the whole cause upon the result.

It need hardly be added, that the Maryland State Colonization Society would make the same or equally favorable propositions to the people of color of this State. Any propositions of the kind coming from them would receive our cordial co-operation.

We copy the following letter from the Protestant Herald of Bardstown, Kentucky. The Editor remarks: "Thirteen years ago, we knew the writer as a useful boy in the family of the late Rev. JNO. M'FARLAND, of Paris, Ky., who was then instructing him preparatory to emigration. The letter is addressed to the brother-in-law of Mr. M'FARLAND, Mr. J. TODD, of Paris. It will be seen that he is satisfied, and has no wish to return, except to visit his friends. We believe that he has been in Liberia eight or ten years."

MONROVIA, LIBERIA, DEC. 30TH, 1840.

DEAR SIR,—I take this opportunity of writing to you to let you and the rest of the friends know that I am alive, and in good health. I am very sorry to tell you that I have not had an opportunity of writing for the last two years, on account of being out of the way every time the ship left for America. I wish to know very much whether my father and mother are yet alive. The last time I heard from them was when Mr. MARKEY's people came out. A great many of that expedition have died; there is one nevertheless, over the fever, HARRY, the boy which used to live with you. Give my best love to all my friends, but more especially to my dear parents; I want to see them very much, but hearing such ill reports from America, which makes me afraid to attempt to start, and I could not come as far back as Kentucky, I suppose, without being molested.

I am quite well satisfied. We have nearly every thing heart could wish. The African trade is beginning to be looked upon by the English as an important branch of their commerce. The Colonists, according to their chance, are much better informed than in many parts of America which I am acquainted with. They are making sugar and planting coffee. In a few years I think there will be a plenty from this country to yours; also, we have hogs, cattle, sheep, and goats, and at present everything appears to prosper. The Spanish and American slavers are entirely broke up in our vicinity. A few weeks since, the British man-of-war commanded by Lord DENHAM, broke up the Gallinas to windward and leeward, and since Gov. BUCHANAN came out, we have destroyed one establishment in our own territories, so much so that I hope the trade will die. I have seen hundreds shipped since I came to this country.

Our churches are attended very well by all classes. The missionaries are going ahead. The climate appears to be getting more healthy—white people live here nearly as well as colored. There are a great many English and Americans knocking about the coast. I must conclude by saying, say to Brother WILLIAM that his Brother DENNIS is not yet married, and never expects to be unless he sees him. Please tell him or my mother to send my watch by the person that comes from your neighborhood, also a good rifle; there are leopards, baboons, wild hogs, wild cows, and game of every kind in this country. If I thought you would get it, I would send you a barrel of palm oil for a curiosity, and no doubt it would answer as a medicine. Tell any of the friends if they have anything to send me, direct it to Hon. H. TEAGE, Monrovia. Also, tell them all to remember me in their prayers. In great haste; the ship is under way.

Your humble servant,

D. P. FERGUSON.



## DANISH SETTLEMENTS IN AQUAPIM.

THE following account of a Danish settlement, sixty miles in the interior of As-hanti is not, we believe, generally known: it is extracted from RITTER'S *Erdkunde von Afrika*, l. p. 299, and *Wadstrom on Colonization*, vol. ii., p. 176, and Appendix. RITTER quotes Dr. ISERT'S *Neue Reise nach Guinea in den Jahren, 1783-7*, a work we have not been able to meet with in London. The account is of much interest, as indicating the docility of the Africans, and their readiness to practice agriculture, when kindly treated and instructed in the best manner of doing so.

The Danish Botanist, Dr. P. E. ISERT, in his visit in 1783-7 into the interior from Akra, on the west coast of Africa, to the mountainous country of Aquapim, found the inhabitants "in a primitive state of happiness and innocence, and in the possession of the most precious gifts of nature."

ISERT wished to found a Colony in the name of the Danish Government, and chose a large and beautiful island in the Rio Volta, for the seat of a new establishment. But having been opposed by the natives, "or rather by the influence of the white slavers," the philanthropic traveller went to the mountains of Aquapim and selected a district belonging to the king of the *Aquamboens*, who, formerly very powerful, now only possesses a country of little extent to the eastward of Akim.

ISERT established his Colony in a very healthy country, but unfavorable for trade, sixty miles above Akra, at an equal distance from the western bank of the Rio Volta, which is navigable to the latitude of the Colony, and thirty miles from the *Poni*, a small stream navigable only by canoes.

This settlement will be ever memorable, for it was here that ISERT assembled in 1792 the first negroes enfranchised by the Danish Government, and caused them to be instructed and civilized by Europeans, and Danish colonists were the first to introduce the use of the plough.

The air here was very salubrious, and the fertility of the soil appears from the success with which cotton, Guinea corn, and millet have been cultivated.

It may be worth while to remark, that the Kabosir, or chief at Aquapim, ceded as much territory as the Colony required for a monthly quit rent of 16*s.* sterling.

The botanist, Lieutenant-Colonel ROER, who was well acquainted with West India cultivation, went there after the death of ISERT. FLINT, emulous of the noble and generous founder of this colony, established a similar one at the foot of the mountains nearer to Akra; he was accompanied by his sister, who, animated by the same zeal for the civilization of Africa, by which Mrs. FALCONBRIDGE, afterwards DUBOIS, has done so much honor to her sex, in twice visiting Sierra Leone, for the education of the natives, devoted herself to instructing the negro women in spinning cotton, needle-work, and other female occupations.—*Friend of Africa*.

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MORE SEIZURES OF SLAVERS.—Captain A. WARD, of Salem, who came passenger from Manilla, in the ship Grotius, bound to this port, which vessel was off Gay Head yesterday afternoon, informed Mr. HATCH of the Express, that when the ship left St. Helena, there were seven vessels with seven hundred slaves at that place, prizes to Her Britannic Majesty's cruisers. The last of the seven arrived on the 2d of March, and had thrown overboard sixty dead slaves in sight of St. Helena.—*Bay State Democrat*.

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